



1F1-3748

Attorney Docket No. 024536-0138

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kenichi MACHIDA *et al.*  
Title: VARIABLE VALVE CONTROL APPARATUS FOR  
INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND METHOD  
THEREOF  
Appl. No.: 10/730,012  
Filing Date: 12/09/2003  
Examiner: Ching Chang  
Art Unit: 3748

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated September 21, 2004, concerning the above-captioned patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks** are presented on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: